## 3309 97th Place SE Everett, WA 98208-4371

January 5, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I wanted to let you know that I am in favor of the settlement that Microsoft and the Justice Department agreed to recently.

Government should not be getting involved in business disputes in private enterprise. This was simply a nuisance suit that should never have been brought in the first place. It frankly reminds me of the tobacco suits where some states were able to extort money from private enterprise.

Continued litigation is bad for business and bad for investors. Microsoft needs to be able to innovate. This is what has made them the flagship of the U.S. computer industry, which is second to none in the world. The settlement is reasonable, and it will allow independent companies to promote their software within the Windows operating system. Because there will be a three-person technical committee to oversee Microsoft and restrict the company from any further behavior that hinders competition, it is my opinion that this case has been won by the government and should not be pursued past this point.

Thank you for letting me explain my position, and I look forward to a hasty end to this matter.

Sincerely,

Arthur W. Miller

Author W. Mille